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Intangible Cultural Heritage

## **Information and exchange meeting**

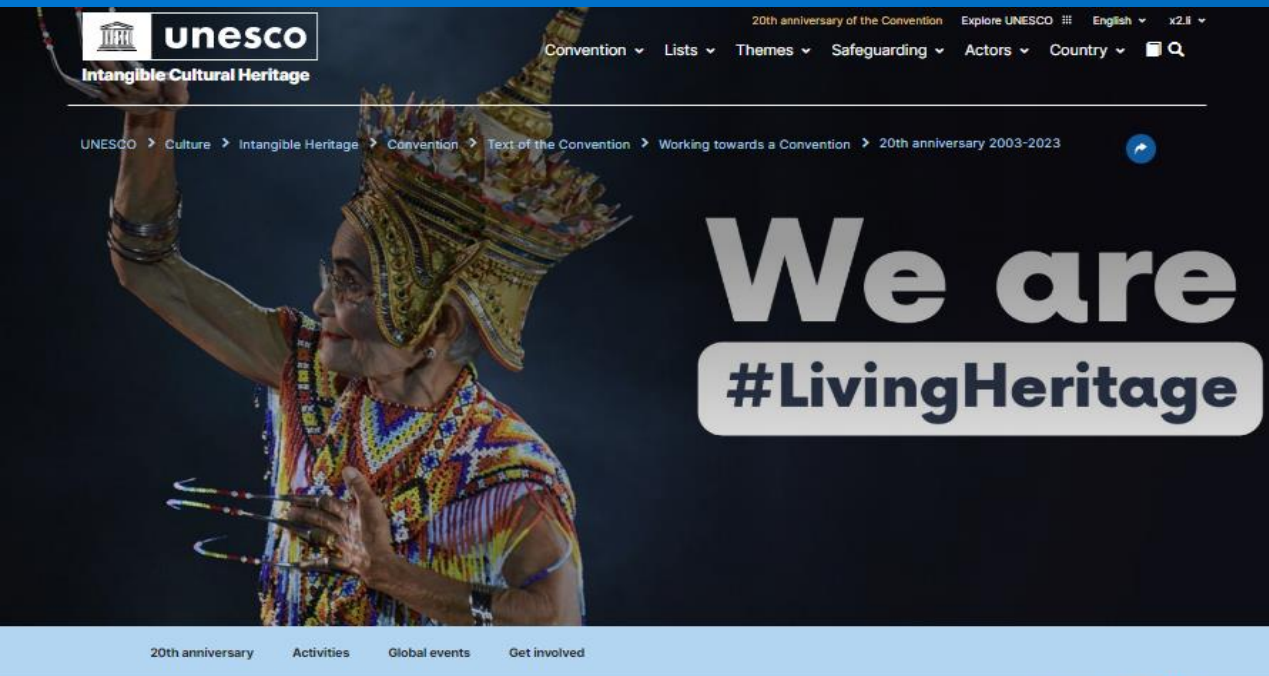
Eighteenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee for  
the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

**2 October 2023**

**3 p.m. – 5 p.m.**

**Room XI**

# <https://ich.unesco.org/en/anniversary>



## 20th anniversary 2003-2023

The year 2023 marks the twentieth anniversary of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage – twenty years since the Convention was adopted, on 17 October 2003, by the 32nd session of the General Conference of UNESCO. It is the opportunity for UNESCO, States Parties to the Convention and all stakeholders involved in the safeguarding of living heritage to highlight that living heritage belongs to all. Organised under the theme **We Are #LivingHeritage**, the anniversary is also the occasion to reflect on the role of the 2003 Convention in raising awareness about the diversity and richness of intangible cultural heritage and in fostering international cooperation.

Living heritage is about people, resilience and knowledge passed on from generation to generation. For this reason, the anniversary is also an invitation to governments, NGOs, universities, bearers, practitioners and those who appreciate living heritage to **organize activities, join UNESCO's social media campaign** (hashtag #LivingHeritage) and **follow anniversary events**, online or in person.



## Activities around the world



**Conférence en prélude au 20e anniversaire de la Convention de 2003**  
10-06-2023  
Foumban (Online) (Cameroon)



**Festive Ceremony as a Manifestation of the Remembering Culture: Resources and Strategies of the Symbolical Wealth of the Steppe Eurasia**  
22/24-05-2023  
Astana (Kazakhstan)



**International Festival of Contemporary Ethnic Music 'The Spirit of Tengri'**  
10/11-06-2023  
Almaty (Kazakhstan)



**Juried Exhibition for Indigenous New Media Artists and Musicians**  
01-05-2023/17-10-2023  
Online (United States of America)



**Inter-institutional thematic table 'Sicilian Opera dei pupi through promotion, sustainability and tourism'**  
31-05-2023  
Palermo (Italy)



**Training of trainers for Greece 'Living Heritage Safeguarding and Sustainable Development'**  
08/11-05-2023  
Lemnos Island (Greece)

[See all activities](#)

## Get involved

[Download Form to share activities](#)

[Use Social Media Pack](#)

# PART I – Eighteenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee



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<https://ich.unesco.org/en/18com>

## Date and place

- From Monday 4 November to Saturday 9 December 2023
- Opening ceremony on Sunday 3 December 2023
- Venue: Wild View Resort (Kasane)

Webpage:

<https://ich.unesco.org/en/18com>

Live webcast from this webpage



## Sessions and participants

- Daily sessions from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (break between 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.)
- General Information Document (INF.1) to provide practical information on hotels and transportation
- Open to observers from States Parties, States not party, intergovernmental organizations, accredited NGOs, category 2 centres, etc.

## Sessions and participants

- Participation costs for representatives from developing States, Members of the Committee or not, and accredited NGOs may be covered by the Fund for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.
- One request for one expert per State Member shall be considered for such assistance from the Fund: ‘...only for persons who are experts in intangible cultural heritage’ (Rule 5.4, Rules of Procedure of the Committee).



## Working languages

- ‘The working languages of the Committee shall be English and French’ (Rule 41 Rules of Procedures of the Committee)

## Role of the Committee

- Defined under Article 7 of the Convention
- Gives recommendations to the General Assembly on issues such as:
  - Drafting Operational Directives
  - Use of resources of the Fund
  - Accreditation of NGOs, etc.
- Inscribes elements on the Lists (Urgent Safeguarding List, Representative List), selects Good Safeguarding Practices and grants International Assistance when submitted with nominations.

## Intergovernmental Committee

- 24 States Parties
- Elected by the General Assembly respecting the principle of equitable geographic representation and rotation.
- For a term of four years; every two years the General Assembly renews half of the members.

## Committee Members

### Group I

Germany	2022-2026
Sweden	2020-2024
Switzerland	2020-2024

### Group II

Czechia	2020-2024
Slovakia	2022-2026
Uzbekistan	2022-2026

### Group III

Brazil	2020-2024
Panama	2020-2024
Paraguay	2022-2026
Peru	2020-2024

## Committee Members

### Group IV

Bangladesh	2022-2026
India	2022-2026
Malaysia	2022-2026
Republic of Korea	2020-2024
Viet Nam	2022-2026

### Group V(a)

Angola	2022-2026
Botswana	2020-2024
Burkina Faso	2022-2026
Côte d'Ivoire	2020-2024
Ethiopia	2022-2026
Rwanda	2020-2024

### Group V(b)

Mauritania	2022-2026
Morocco	2020-2024
Saudi Arabia	2020-2024

## Bureau

- Chairperson: H.E. Mr Mustaq Moorad (Botswana)
- Vice-Chairpersons: Switzerland, Slovakia, Peru, Bangladesh and Morocco
- Rapporteur: Ms Eva Kuminkova (Czechia)

## Documents

- Working documents (LHE/23/18.COM/X): request a decision by the Committee
- Information documents (LHE/23/18.COM/INF.X): do not require any decision
- Numbered according to the item on the agenda
- Nominations, requests and reports are also available through the website

**Will be published online by 6 November, 4 weeks before the session**


## Webpage

<https://ich.unesco.org/en/18com/>

- Working documents
- Information documents
- Reports on the status of the elements inscribed on the USL
- Reports on the implementation of the Convention in States Parties in the Arab States
- Nominations , requests and proposals
- Requests and reports by non-governmental organizations

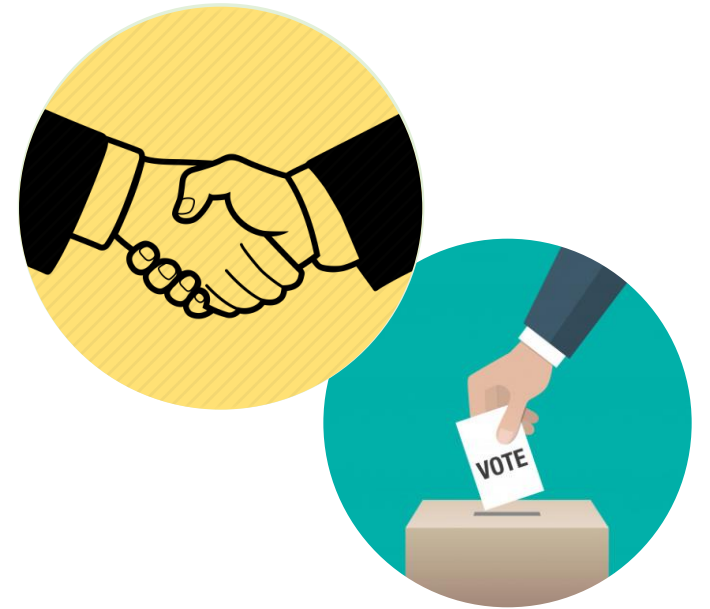


## Order of debate

- Only speakers recognized by Chairperson may have the floor.
  -  Speakers are asked to limit their interventions.  
The Chairperson has the right to use a timer if he deems it necessary.
- Only Committee Members may intervene during the adoption of decisions.
- Representatives of a State Party, whether or not a Member of the Committee, shall not speak to advocate the inclusion in the lists but only to provide information in reply to questions raised (Rule 22.4 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee)

## Decision-making

- Consensus is privileged
- In case of voting:
  - Each State Member has one vote
  - Decisions by a simple majority (13 out of 24)
  - Some by a two-third majority (16 out of 24)
    - Amendment or suspension to the Rules of Procedure
    - Convening an extraordinary Committee session
    - Amending, deleting or adding items to the agenda



## Amendments

- To be submitted to [ICH-amendments@unesco.org](mailto:ICH-amendments@unesco.org)
- Please indicate the name of your country.
- The form will be available on the 18.COM webpage.

# PART II – Agenda and timetable of the eighteenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee



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## Monday, 4 December 2023

### MORNING

- 1 Opening
- 2 Adoption of the agenda
- 3 Observers
- 4 Adoption of the summary records of the seventeenth session of the Committee
- Report by the Chairperson of the Committee on the Bureau activities
- 5 Report by the Secretariat on its activities (January 2022 to June 2023)

## Monday, 4 December 2023

AFTERNOON

6

Twentieth anniversary of the 2003 Convention in 2023

7.a

Examination of the reports by States Parties on the current status of elements inscribed on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding

Plenary celebration: Twentieth anniversary of the 2003 Convention

## Tuesday, 5 December 2023

MORNING

**7.b**

Examination of the reports of the regional cycle of periodic reporting on the implementation of the Convention and on the current status of elements inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by States Parties in the Arab States

**7.c**

Update on the regional cycles of the Convention's periodic reporting and proposal for related amendments to the Operational Directives

## Tuesday, 5 December 2023

AFTERNOON

**8**

Report of the Evaluation Body on its work in 2023 (Part I)

**8.a**

Examination of nominations for inscription on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding

**8.b**

Examination of nominations for inscription on the Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity



## Wednesday, 6 December 2023

MORNING AND AFTERNOON

**8.b**

Examination of nominations for inscription  
on the Representative List of the Intangible  
Cultural Heritage of Humanity

## Thursday, 7 December 2023

MORNING

**8.c**

Examination of proposals to the Register of Good Safeguarding Practices

**8.d**

Examination of requests for International Assistance

**8**

Report of the Evaluation Body on its work in 2023  
(Part II)

## Thursday, 7 December 2023

AFTERNOON

**9**

Follow-up on elements inscribed on the List of the Convention

**10**

Report on International Assistance from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund and proposal for related amendments to the Operational Directives

**11**

Reflection on a broader implementation of Article 18 of the Convention and proposal for related amendments to the Operational Directives

## Friday, 8 December 2023

MORNING

**12**

Thematic initiatives on living heritage and sustainable development

**13**

Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund: voluntary supplementary contributions and other issues

**14**

Draft plan for the use of resources of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund in 2024 and 2025

## Friday, 8 December 2023

AFTERNOON

15

Report of the non-governmental organizations forum

16

Accreditation of non-governmental organizations and review of accredited non-governmental organizations

## Saturday, 9 December 2023

MORNING

17

Establishment of the Evaluation Body for the 2024 cycle (Part I)

18

Date and place of the nineteenth session of the Committee

19

Election of the members of the Bureau of the nineteenth session of the Committee

## Saturday, 9 December 2023

AFTERNOON

- 17 Establishment of the Evaluation Body for the 2024 cycle (Part II)
- 20 Report by the Committee to the General Assembly on its activities (January 2022 to December 2023)
- 21 Other business
- 22 Adoption of the list of decisions
- 23 Closure

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